STATE SENATOR - MARTHA G. SCOTT - 2ND DISTRICT

Scott Press Release

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SENATOR SCOTT ANNOUNCES LOCAL GOVERNOR'S SERVICE AWARDS FINALIST

LANSING – Today State Senator Martha G. Scott (D-Highland Park) announced that Mr. Rob Cedar of Hamtramck was selected as a finalist for the 2005 Governor's Service Awards. He was selected from more than 260 individuals, businesses, and nonprofit organizations from across the state who were nominated for the awards. The Governor's Service Awards honor dedicated citizens who give of themselves through volunteer service. Governor Jennifer Granholm, First Gentleman Dan Mulhern, and Former First Lady Rosalynn Carter will honor Mr. Cedar and the other finalists at the Governor's Service Awards dinner, being held at the Hyatt Regency on Saturday, June 18, 2005, in Dearborn, Michigan.

"Volunteers are truly the heroes of our state," said Senator Scott. "They give unselfishly of their time and talent and ask for nothing in return. We owe them a debt of gratitude for all they do and the Governor's Service Awards are just one small way we can say thank you."

Senator Scott nominated Mr. Cedar for the Exemplary Volunteer Service Award for his volunteer efforts on peace, environmental issues, and the needs of the less fortunate. His environmental work has resulted in the clean-up of a deserted paint factory; he saved a local park from being razed; and he founded the Hamtramck Environmental Action Team. After 10 years of self-education on medical waste incinerators, he is a grassroots expert and is helping 11 Midwest and Southern states educate local communities on the issue. As a result of Mr. Cedar's efforts, the level of childhood lead poisoning in Hamtramck was reduced from one in four to one in 25.

The Governor's Service Awards are an annual statewide recognition program acknowledging the contributions made by Michigan's volunteers. There are eight award categories and five finalists are selected for each category. The winners will receive an award from Governor Granholm and First Gentleman Mulhern during the evening's program. All finalists receive a Special Tribute from Governor Granholm.

The celebration of volunteer service is made possible through the generous contributions of the Premier Sponsors – DTE Energy Foundation, Ford Motor Company Fund, General Motors Corporation, GMAC Financial Services, and Lear Corporation. The Pacesetter sponsors are Health Alliance Plan, Meijer, UAW-DaimlerChrysler National Training Center, UAW-Ford National Programs Center, UAW-GM Center for Learning, and W.K. Kellogg Foundation. The Campus Hero sponsors are Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan and Blue Care Network, Community Foundations of Michigan, Consumers Energy, Delphi Corporation, Herbert H. and Grace A. Dow Foundation, MGM Grand Detroit Casino, Standard Federal, and State Farm Insurance Company.

The Michigan Community Service Commission, a state agency that builds a culture of service to strengthen communities, issued nomination applications for this year's awards. After a rigorous review by individuals representing nonprofit, volunteer, business, and education organizations, 40 finalists were selected in the eight award categories.

To purchase tickets to attend the event or for more information about the Governor's Service Awards, visit www.michigan.gov/mcsc or call (517) 373-4200.

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Senator Scott represents the 2nd Senate District, which includes areas of Detroit and the cities of Hamtramck, Harper Woods, Highland Park and all of the Grosse Pointes. She serves on the Senate Appropriations Committee.

The Michigan Community Service Commission (MCSC), chaired by First Gentleman Daniel Mulhern, builds a culture of service by providing vision and resources to strengthen communities through volunteerism. In 2004-05, the MCSC is granting more than \$6.9 million in federal funds to local communities for volunteer programs and activities. The MCSC supports and manages programs such as Mentor Michigan, AmeriCorps, Learn and Serve, Michigan Volunteer Investment Grants, Michigan Citizen Corps, and the Governor's Service Awards.